

REMARKS

Claims 1, 3-6, 8-11, 13-16 and 18-2 are pending in this application.

Reconsideration and allowance of all the rejected claims are respectfully requested in view of the following remarks.

CLAIM REJECTION UNDER 35 U.S.C. § 112, SECOND PARAGRAPH

Claims 5, 10, 15 and 20 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. §112, second paragraph, as allegedly being incomplete. Applicants have amended these claims to overcome this rejection and respectfully request the Examiner to withdraw the rejection.

CLAIM REJECTION UNDER 35 U.S.C. §102

Claims 1, 6, 11, 16, 21, 23, 25 and 27 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. §102(e) as allegedly being anticipated by Shakib et al (5,778,213). Applicants respectfully traverse this rejection on the following basis.

Independent claims 1, 6, 11, and 16 recite, inter alia, creating a character table bank having at least one row representing an entry for a predetermined character and a plurality of columns associated with a corresponding row, wherein each column is associated with a predetermined character set and wherein the predetermined character sets represent different languages, among other things. In an exemplary embodiment, the invention receives a textual message of unknown language and makes a normative decision concerning a character set that best matches the characters of the textual message, based on character sets associated with the columns of the character table bank (see the present specification at page 6, second full paragraph and page 14, second full paragraph). A character set that contains a

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best match for the characters of the message is likely to be the native language of the original message (see the present specification at page 3, fourth full paragraph).

The Examiner alleges that Shakib et al. discloses "creating a character table having one row representing an entry for a predetermined character and a plurality of columns associated with a corresponding row wherein each column is associated with a predetermined character set" (figure 1, his first table 17, comprising row and column, col. 1, line 59-65, col. 3, lines 18-28)" (see numbered paragraph 4 on page 3 of the June 4, 2003 Office Action). Although Shakib et al. discloses tables 17 and 24 having row and columns, Shakib et al. does not disclose that any tables include one row representing an entry for a predetermined character and a plurality of columns associated with a corresponding row, wherein each column is associated with a predetermined character set. Furthermore, Shakib et al. does not disclose that the predetermined character sets associated with the plurality of columns represent different languages.

Rather, Shakib et al. discloses that information is divided into two parts, a first part (e.g. a first table 17) that contains the bulk of the information found in the record is stored *in a selected character set* and a second part (e.g. a second table 24) that contains the fields used to create sorted views or lists of records, *is stored in a universal character set* (see Shakib et al., col. 1, lines 59-65). Shakib et al. further discloses that *the selected character set* is the character set in which the record was created, its native character set. A tag identifies the character set and is associated with the first part of the information (see Shakib et al., col. 1, line 66 to col. 2, line 2). A client selects

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information, e.g., a first set of fields of a database record and identifies only the desired character set and the language for the requested information (see Shakib et al., col. 2, lines 5-8). If the information is not currently stored in the character set selected by the client, the server converts the information to the client-specified character set and then sends the converted information to the client (see Shakib et al., col. 2, lines 8-12).

Thus, Shakib et al. is directed to working with a known language (a native character set) and converting to another known language (a requested character set). In other words, all of the information stored in tables 17 and 24 is stored in a same (and known) language and therefore is stored in a same (and known) character set. As a result, the claimed subject matter is distinguished from Shakib et al., which does not teach or suggest a character table bank having at least one row representing an entry for a predetermined character and a plurality of columns associated with a corresponding row, wherein each column is associated with a predetermined character set and wherein the predetermined character sets represent different languages.

Since Shakib et al. neither discloses nor suggests the invention claimed in independent claims 1, 6, 11, 16 and their corresponding dependent claims 21, 23, 25 and 27, these claims clearly are not anticipated by Shakib et al. For the foregoing reason, reconsideration and allowance of these claims are respectfully requested.

CLAIM REJECTION UNDER 35 U.S.C. §103

Claims 3-5, 8-10, 13-15, 18-20, 22, 24, 26 and 28 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as allegedly being obvious over Shakib et al. in view of Martino et al. (5,548,507). Applicants respectfully traverse this rejection on the following basis.

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Claims 3-5, 8-10, 13-15, 18-20, 22, 24, 26 and 28 depend from a corresponding one of independent claims 1, 6, 11, and 16 and therefore include the recitation of creating a character table bank having at least one row representing an entry for a predetermined character and a plurality of columns associated with a corresponding row, wherein each column is associated with a predetermined character set and wherein the predetermined character sets represent different languages.

The above deficiencies of Shakib et al are not overcome by Martino et al., which discloses a process that identifies the language or genre of a stored or transmitted document using a plurality of Word Frequency Tables (WFTs) (see the Abstract) and does not disclose creating a character table bank having at least one row representing an entry for a predetermined character and a plurality of columns associated with a corresponding row, wherein each column is associated with a predetermined character set and wherein the predetermined character sets represent different languages. In the November 5, 2002 Office Action, the Examiner further acknowledges that Martino et al. is deficient because it discloses that a message is evaluated by comparing the words received from the source with each word in the plurality of language Word Frequency Tables (see Martino et al., col. 7, lines 59-67 and page 3 of the November 5, 2002 Office Action), rather than comparing the characters of the message.

For at least the reasons set forth above, Applicants respectfully submit that none of the references cited by the Examiner, either alone or in combination, teach all of the features of independent claims 1, 6, 11, and 16. Accordingly, Applicants further submit

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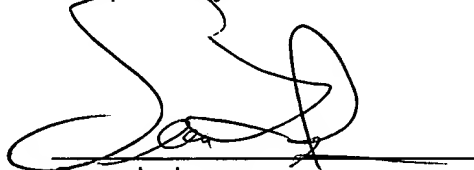
that claims 3-5, 8-10, 13-15, 18-20, 22, 24, 26 and 28 are allowable at least by virtue of their dependency.

Having addressed each of the foregoing rejections, it is respectfully submitted that a full and complete response has been made to the Office Action and, as such, the application is in condition for allowance. Notice to that effect is respectfully requested.

If the Examiner believes, for any reason, that personal communication will expedite prosecution of this application, the Examiner is invited to telephone the undersigned at the number provided.

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Respectfully submitted,



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